



BATTALION COMMANDERS POLICY STATEMENT ON SAFETY

I intend to establish an environment where all Marines and Sailors constantly work to ensure safety, from the individual through the chain of command. Our past methods of reducing mishaps have produced results but will not in itself achieve mission accomplishment. We must be proactive in our actions and use the talents and experience of our personnel to remain a force in readiness capable to meeting any task assigned. Our goal is simply zero mishaps.

I want this organization to develop a safety culture thus remaining focused on safe practices in everything we do both on and off duty. Safe equipment, training, standard operating procedures, regulations, supervision, and accountability are essential to this goal. We must continue to adapt our way of business towards continuous improvement while utilizing proven safety programs.

A safety culture is one in which safety is not simply a priority, but a value applied in every endeavor. An organization must seek the involvement of all hands, provide continuing education and training, and foster teamwork, leadership, and individual ownership at every step. Our battalion must leverage the enthusiasm, pride, optimism, and self esteem within our personnel to achieve our goals. Simply put, our safety culture will build on our ethos to meet this challenge.

We work as a team and we win as a team. Each member of the battalion is responsible for the safe accomplishment of the mission whether in garrison, during field training, or during off duty hours. Safety must come from the top down and the bottom up.

I hold each commander responsible for ensuring his unit adheres to all safety policies and accountable for unsafe actions his unit commits. I require commanders to conduct proactive planning and review all operations, from the simplest to the most complex. Planning, briefing, and debriefings must be done in accordance with operational risk management principles. We must eliminate all unacceptable risk and to do so will take action on our part.

Finally, safety is an integral part of our professionalism. We will strive to understand the hazards that our personnel face, we will develop proper controls to mitigate the risk, and we will ensure that our controls are adhered to.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. E. Langley".

M. E. LANGLEY
LtCol USMC